

The King's Highway

An Advocate of Scriptural Holiness

— THE ORGAN OF THE — REFORMED BAPTIST ALLIANCE

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— Editorials —

PENTECOST IS FOR TO-DAY!

"In the Name of God, do not let us talk of the Day of Pentecost as though it were a day that came and went nineteen hundred years ago. This is the Day of Pentecost! The Spirit of God is here. If I am not singing, living, prophesying, it is because I am like the twelve men at Ephesus — I have come so far and halted. Man! dare go farther. Add to your present position the final thing of belief in Christ — the mighty power of the Holy Spirit upon you.

"Take that step now, and the Spirit will come upon you, and immediately you will feel the burning of the fire, the rising of the song, the driving power. In the Name of God, do not quench that fire. In the Name of God, do not resist that power".

This is a quotation from the great expositor, Dr. G. Campbell Morgan. It underlines a truth that must grip us with pull and persuasion.

Pentecost is historical but it is also contemporary. It belongs to the past but it also belongs to the present. It happened more than nineteen hundred years ago, but it should be happening today.

The Church was born on the Day of Pentecost and it can only live as the Spirit of Pentecost is within it. When the Holy Ghost came to the hearts of the upper room believers, he thrust them out and made them a disturbing, dynamic force in the world. Under the preaching, witnessing, miracle-working of these Spirit-filled men, sin was challenged, condemned, curbed, and cast out. The cold indifference of unbelief melted under the heat of a Church aflame with the fire of the Holy Ghost. Organized and ruthless opposition to the Nazarene sect was swept aside under the impact of the Spirit's power. Sinners were smitten with conviction until they cried out for spiritual guidance and grace. In one day the membership of the infant Church increased from 120 to 3,120. Centres of worldliness and evil were invaded by these consecrated men of God, and churches were established as people from all levels of society came under the transforming power of the Gospel. The sick were healed, the demon-possessed were delivered, and bitter opponents of the Gospel were converted and began to preach the Faith they had sought to destroy. The news of Salvation through one who had

"died for our sins and had risen for our justification" spread like a fire from community to community, and from country to country. And so believers were continually added to the Lord. The Church was a glowing, going, growing force in the world.

And this is the Day of Pentecost, for this is the Day of the Holy Ghost. The dynamic offered and given to the men and women of the early Church is available to believers to-day. All we need to make us a moving force for God is promised and proffered. Until Jesus Christ returns in glory, the resources of the Holy Ghost will be supplied for victorious Christian living and fruitful Christian service.

But must we confess that Pentecost for to-day is more a matter of belief than of experience? Is it not true that between what we may be through the mighty baptism of the Spirit and what we really are, there is a great gulf? If so, why? That is the disturbing, searching, convicting question—WHY?

THE CHURCH YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE

May 31st., marks the close of our 1960-61 statistical year. On that date the books will close and the task of making report on the twelve-month period will be the responsibility of local and denominational officers.

There is little time left, but enough to make a last check on our standing, and a last hurried effort to reach the goals that may yet be beyond us.

The church and pastor concerned with our denominational enterprises will be anxious about budgets and budget payments. Have we given the help requested for Missions, Home and Foreign? Has Bethany Bible College received the support that has been asked for it, and will the Alliance Treasurer's report indicate that we have stood behind our superintendent in a practical way?

There is satisfaction, real satisfaction, in reaching goals that are worthy. Every responsible pastor and church member will be gratified if their statistical report shows a "budgets paid in full" status. And whatever effort may be necessary to spur us toward that goal, even at this late hour, will be worthwhile.

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THE PATTERN OF PENTECOST

by Samuel Chadwick

The Whitsuntide festival once a year turns our attention to the events of Pentecost. It is the birthday of Christendom. The Christian dispensation was inaugurated on that day by the gift of the Holy Spirit. It was the most wonderful day the world had ever seen since God made man in his own image. It closed a dispensation that had lasted for thousands of years, and opened another that will continue till the end of time. It was a sample day. The signs were temporary but their significance is for all generations. Within the proceedings of that day may be found all the forces manifest in all succeeding days. As the day so is the dispensation.

THE PREPARATION FOR PENTECOST

The preparation for Pentecost may be said to have been going on from the beginning. Through all the history of Israel God had been preparing the world for the coming of his Son, and the Son came that this gift to the race might be procured. But there was an immediate preparation in the work of Christ. The Holy Spirit could not be given until the work of Christ was accomplished.

In John 7:39 we are told that Christ's words on that occasion were spoken of the Spirit which was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. The words (Continued on Page 8)